

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 05752 021233Z

46

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 SAM-01 SAB-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01

SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 CIEP-03 NIC-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01 SSO-00 /184 W

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R 020731Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TT RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8110

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS CAIRO 5752

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR EG IS UR US XF

SUBJ: FAHMY FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT

1. IN POLICY STATEMENT GIVEN IN FORM OF EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW TO EDITOR OF CAIRO DAILY GUMHIRIYYA ON JULY 25 AND PUBLISHED AUGUST1, FH FAHMY DISCUSSED PALESTINE (SEPTTEL), ARAB SUMMIT, AND EGYPTIAN RELATIONS WITH USSR, ISRAEL AND USG.

2. USSR/GOE RELATIONS. INTERVIEWER NOTES FAHMY "PERHAPS" BEGAN WITH THIS SUBJECT BECAUSE OF IZVESTIA ATTACK ON GOE POLICY. FAHMY SAID "WE WILL NOT BE PRESSURED INTO CLAMOROUS REACTION OR EXASPERATION BY HYPERSENSITIVITY, NARROW-MINDEDNESS, OR EMOTION."
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 05752 021233Z

EGYPT IS SURE OF ITSELF AND THE SOUNDNESS OF ITS STAND. WE

HAVE ENJOYED AND SHALL CONTINUE TO ENJOY FRIENDSHIP AND GRATITUDE VISA A VIS USSR; SIMILARLY, WE HAVE AND SHALL CONTINUE TO HAVE "CONTROL OVER OUR NERVES*" ASKED WHAT EGYPT WANTS FROM USSR, FAHMY ANSWERED: "WEAPONS", WHICH ARE NECESSARY AS LONG AS ISRAEL RECEIVES ARMS, OCCUPIES ARAB TERRITORY, AND DISPUTES PALESTINIAN RIGHTS OR, TO BE MORE PRECISE, PROCRASTINATER IN IMPLEMENTING RES. 242. HOPEFULLY, HE ADDED USSR CAN PRESS USG TO PRESS GOI. THIS, "WE EXPECT TO BRING ABOUT THROUGH BREZHNEV/ SADAT SUMMIT." HE NOTED THAT PRESIDENT NIXON CAME TO EGYPT EVEN THOUGH SADAT HAD PREVIOUSLY NOT GONE TO HIM IN WASHINGTON, AND THUS "WOULD WE BE EXAGGERATING IF WE EXPECT BREZHNEV/SADAT MEETING TO BE IN CAIRO AFTER SADAT HAS GONE THREE TIMES TO MOSCOW." WE DO NOT BELIEVE USSR "COMTEMPLATES OR WANTS INTERVENTION IN OUR DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.." LIKEWISE, WE DO NOT INTERVENE IN ANY STATES AFFAIRS. "WE DID NOT CHOOSE SOCIALIST PATH TO PLEASE USSR "FINDS" IT IN OUR MUTUAL INTEREST TO STAND TOGETHER AGAINST IMPERIALISM.

2. REFERRING TO SOVIET "WRITERS" WHO OBJECT TO ALLEGED GOE TILT TOWARD US, FAHMY ASKS: "WHAT HAVE WE GIVEN TO US? NO MORE THAN RESTORATION OF RELATIONS" AND CESSATION OF CONSTANT ATTACKS AGAINST USG SINCE US POLICY HAS BECOME MORE POSITIVE. "WOULD MOSCOW HOLD IT AGAINST US THAT US MADE EFFORT AND REACHED DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT." FAHMY RECALLED SOVIET LEADERS TELLING HIM IN MOSCOW AFTER OCTOBER WAR: "REST ASSURED, WE ARE CERTAIN KISSINGER WILL REACH APPROPRIATE TENTATIVE SOLUTION IN JANUARY 1974". WHY THEN, FAHMY CONTINUES, THIS CASTING OF DOUBTS AND REPROACHES; "WHY DID USSR NOT PARTICIPATE DIRECTLY AND TAKE INITIATIVE IN EFFORTS FOR SOLUTION," RATHER THAN SIMPLY BEING SATISFIED WITH WHAT KISSINGER WOULD DO. "USSR REGRESSED AND SAID WHAT IT WAS QUOTED TO HAVE SAID, AND THEN SUDDENLY POSTPONED DATE IT FIXED FOR EGYPTIAN DELEGATION ON JULY 15. BUT WE WERE NOT ANGRY*"

3. APPARENTLY REFERRING TO HIS MOSCOW VISIT AFTER ASWAN, FAHMY SAYS BREZHNEV VERSION OF DISENGAGEMENT MAPS WAS INCORRECT AND INCONSISTENT WITH FAHMY'S MAP. BREZHNEV REACTED BY SCOLDING HIS ASSISTANTS, CHANGING HIS MAP AND THEN PROVIDING APPROVAL IN UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 CAIRO 05752 021233Z

WRITING OF DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. "I ASK NOW OUR SOVIET FRIENDS WHY OBSTACLES ARE PLACED IN OUR SUPPLY OF ARMS." HOWEVER, HE SAID, "WE ARE ALWAYS HOPEFUL..."

4. ISRAEL. ASKED IF THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER FIGHTING, FAHMY RESPONDED "RESUMPTION OF FIGHTING IS REMOTE", BUT NOT RULED OUT. CONCERNING RE-EQUIPMENT OF ARMED FORCES, FAHMY SAID HE IS NOT EXPERT, THOUGH FROM WHAT HE FEELS

"REASSURED."

5. USG/GOE RELATIONS. FAHMY WAS ASKED, IN THE CONTEXT OF HIS COMING TRIP TO US: "WILL WATERGATE AFFECT YOUR ABILITY TO PAVE WAY FOR A NEW MILITARY AGREEMENT FOR NEW ISRAEL WNTHLRAWAL BEHIND THE PASSES--TO AL-ARISH, FOR EXAMPLE--AS A RECOND PHASE?" FAHMY REPLIED: "MAYBE*"

4. ARAB SUMMIT. ASKED ABOUT FOUR POWER ARAB SUMMIT SCHEDULE TO BEGIN THIS WEEK IN CAIRO, FAHMY ASKED RHETORICALLY WHY THERE HAS BEEN SO MUCH FOTT DRAGGING. HE ADDED THAT HE IS READY TO ATTEND SUCH MEETING IMMEDIATLEY, BUT THAT HE HAS AUGUST APPOINTMENTS HE MUST HONOR, E.T., IN PARIS AND WASHINGTON. HE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF COORDINATION TO AVOID SITUATION IN GENEVA OF FANCY SPEECHES LEADING NOWHERE. HE MADE SPECIAL POINT OF PRAISING SARG AND SYRIA, "TO US THE NEAREST AND MOST BELOVED OF ALL ARAB COUNTIRES" BOTH "HISTORICALLY AND EMOTIONALLY"

7. COMMENT: THIS POLICY STATEMENT IS NOTABLE FOR FIRM WORDS ADDRESSED TO PALESTINIANS (SEPTTEL) AND MILDNESS OF CRITICISM OF USSR. WE NOTE FAHMY DID NOT REPLY IN KIND TO RECENT MILNTANT STATEMENT OF TOP GOI OFFICIILS, LIMITING HIMSELF TO DECLARING THAT ISRAEL IS "AGGRESSIVE" AND PLACING OBSTACLES IN THE WAY OF GENEVA CONFERENCE.
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